

P-23: Chelan-Douglas TATU – Building a Successful Program Over Time

Venue: Community and Schools

Goal: Preventing Initiation of Tobacco Use

Sponsoring Organization: Chelan-Douglas TOGETHER

Abstract: The Chelan-Douglas Teens Against Tobacco Use (TATU) group started seven years ago with one group of 20 youth members and has now grown into seven groups with approximately 200 members. All of the schools districts in Chelan and Douglas Counties are involved in the TATU program. In order to help other areas in Central Washington with new or small TATU groups, Chelan-Douglas invited students from Grant County, Okanogan County and the Colville Tribe to participate along with local area youth in the September 2001 training session. A total of 240 high school students and 40 trained advisors participated in this training.

Recommendations: Start small with a new TATU group or program. Get skilled teen mentors and develop a strategy to retain reliable student advisors in order to make the schools comfortable with the program. Once a small program is successful, then you can expand and build on a solid foundation and continue to foster trust with the schools.

Contact for more information:

Renee Hunter

Chelan – Douglas TOGETHER

509-662-7201

together@televar.com